Setting up of Central Madarsa Board

2550. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to set up Central Madarsa Board;

(b) if so, by when and who will be the members; and

(c) whether Government would seek experience of various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The proposal in regard to establishing a Central Madrasa Board, through an Act of Parliament, for standardizing the education in modern subjects of Science, Maths, etc. which are non-theological, was proposed in a report of a National Conference organized by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI). Since it is not a proposal initiated by the Government, any decision in this regard shall be taken only in the event of there being consensus among all stakeholders. At present there are Madrasa Boards in the States of Assam, Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh.

National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education

2551. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide quality teachers in the country;

(b) if so, whether National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has fixed any norms and standards for quality teachers and to ensure planned and coordinated development of teacher education in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education finalized by the NCTE for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government continuously takes steps for improving the quality of teacher education in the country. The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) frames norms and standards for various teacher education courses, which are reviewed and revised periodically. Latest norms and standards have been notified on 31st August, 2009. The revised norms and standards *inter-alia* provide online receipt of applications, enhanced qualification for recruitment of teacher educators, improved teaching learning/instructional resources in teacher education institutions, increased number of working days for practical and school based experience, compulsory accreditation of the teacher training institutions by National Assessment and

Accreditation Council (NAAC) for additional courses and for additional intake to the existing courses. The NCTE also undertakes regular monitoring of the functioning of the recognized teacher training institutions to ensure quality teachers for the schooling system.

(d) The NCTE has prepared a National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education which would be finalized in consultation with the State Governments and other stakeholders.

Setting up of NRI universities

2552. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced to set up NRI universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of universities to be established;

(c) the steps taken so far in this direction and the reasons for inordinate delay in its implementation; and

(d) the time-frame by which Government expects to establish such universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) According to the information furnished by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, it is proposed to set up five Persons of Indian Origin (PIO)/Non Resident Indians (NRI) Universities in the country. The first PIO/NRI University is being set up at Bengaluru by the Manipal Academy of Higher Education Trust. As per recommendations of the Advisory Board constituted for the purpose, action is underway on the part of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, to enact a Central legislation for setting up the university.

Proposals have been invited and received by the said Ministry for setting up four more PIO/NRI Universities in other cities. The time frame for establishing the four Universities would be worked out by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, after examination of the proposals received.

Modernisation of laboratories of polytechnic colleges

†2553. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased lo state:

(a) whether the proposal of modernization project of laboratories in 17 polytechnic colleges of Madhya Pradesh is pending before the Central Government since November, 2005;

(b) if so, the reasons for pendency of this proposal; and

(c) by when these will be sanctioned?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.